Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4343

INFO AMCONSUL AMSTERDAM

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSQ MUNICH

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION USNATO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USIA WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: BU, PEPR, US, PROP, PARM

SUBJECT: BULGARIA AND THE NEUTRON BOMB

REF: A) BUDAPEST 1223; B) BUCHAREST 1974

1. BULGARIAN PARTY AND PRESS HAVE ALSO STEPPED UP ACTIVITIES AND PROPAGANDA AGAINST NEUTRON BOMB SINCE BUDAPEST IDEOLOGICAL CONFERENCE WHICH ENDED MARCH 1, PARTICULARLY FOLLOWING MARCH 20 POLITBURO MEETING WHICH PRESS REPORT SAID CONCERNED CONFERENCE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REPORT.

2. MARCH 6 PRESS PUBLICIZED SOFIA MEETING OF INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF CHRISTIAN PEACEMAKING UNDER PATRONAGE OF BULGARIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH PATRIARCH MAKSIM WHICH SENT ANTI-NEUTRON BOMB MESSAGE TO WORLD ASSOCIATION OF PEACEMAKING CONFERENCES, TO BE HELD IN PRAGUE IN MARCH.

MARCH 15 PAPERS REPORTED SOVIET/WARSAW PACT PROPOSAL AT GENEVA DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE WITH SUPPORTING EDITORIAL IN BCP CENTRAL COMMITTEE PAPER RABOTNICHESKO DELO. NEXT EVENT OCCASIONING ANTI-NEUTRON BOMB PROPAGANDA WAS AMSTERDAM MEETING WHCH WAS ATTENDED BY CHAIRMAN OF BULGARIAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR DEFENSE OF PEACE AND "DELEGATION OF THE BULGARIAN PUBLIC," HEADED BY CHAIRMAN OF NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR EUROPEAN SECURITY AND COOPERATION. GERO GROSEV.

2. ON MARCH 21, PRESS REPORTED THAT BCP POLITURO HAD MET DAY BEFORE AND APPROVED BULGARIAN DELEGATION'S REPORT OF BUDAPEST CONFERENCE AND "CHARGED CORRESPONDING PARTY, PUBLIC, AND STATE ORGANS AND ORGANIZATIONS WITH TASK OF TAKING NECESSARY MEASURES TO ENSURE FULFILLMENT OF CONCLU-SIONS AND TASKS STEMMING FROM THE CONFERENCE." ACCOMPANY-ING RABOTNICHESKO DELO EDITORIAL IDENTIFIED "PARAMOUNT TASK IN TPS NOBLE DRIVE" AS "GREATER INTENSIFICATION OF WORLD PROTEST MOVEMENT AGAINST US PLANS FOR PRODUCTION OF BARBARIC NEUTRON WEAPON AND ITS STATIONING IN WESTERN EUROPE..." ALL MEDIA MARCH 23 CARRIED BULGARIAN TELE-GRAPH AGENCY (BTA) DECLARATION ON NEUTRON BOMB. MARCH 24 PAPERS HAD PIECE ON BOMB BY POLITBURO SENIOR MEMBER TSOLA DRAGOICHEVA, MARCH 27 SAW A PIECE AGAINST BOMB BY BULGARIAN CSCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN GROSEV, AND MARCH 29 A PIECE BY BULGARIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES CHAIR-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MAN ANGEL BALEVSKI. "MASS MEETING" WAS ALSO HELD MARCH 26 OF FOREIGN STUDENTS IN SOFIA FROM USSR, GDR, CYPRUS, AFGHKISTAN, LEGANON, GREECE, SOUTH AFRICA, PORTUGAL AND OTHER COUNTRIES, WITH SPEECHES OF "ANGRY PROTEST" AND TELEGRAM TO UNSYG WALDHEIM AGAINST BOMB.

3. FOR NEARLY A YEAR NOW, EMBASSY HAS BEEN RECEIVING A TRICKLE AND SOMETIMES A STREAM OF LETTERS AND TELEGRAMS AGAINST BOMB. SO FAR IN MARCH THEY HAVE BEEN FEW. THAT WILL PROBABLY CHANGE AS POLITBURO INSTRUCTION BEGINS TO BE IMPLEMENTED BY PARTY GROUPS AROUND COUNTRY. GARTHOFF

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